

BARROW REPUBLICAN NEWS

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 4 APRIL 2021
BARROW COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
P.O. BOX 1054 WINDER, GA 30680-1054

MEETINGS

Our Next Regular Meeting – Mon., Mar 15 7:30 PM
@ Winder Woman’s Club (behind Winder Fire Dept.)
 Auburn City Council Meeting – Thur., Apr 1 6:00 PM
 Bethlehem City Council Meeting – Mon., Apr 5 7:00 PM
 Barrow School Board Meeting – Tue., Apr 6 6:00 PM
 Winder City Council Meeting – Tue., Apr 6 6:00 PM
 County Commission Meeting – Tue., Apr 13 7:00 PM
 Auburn City Council Meeting – Thur., Apr 15 6:00 PM
 Carl Town Council Meeting – Thur., Apr 15 7:00 PM
 Statham City Council Meeting – Tue., Apr 20 7:00 PM
 County Commission Meeting – Tue., Apr 27 7:00 PM

VOTING MEMBERS – COUNTY COMMITTEE (26)
 Debbie Reid – Chrm. Kathy Hopkins David Gunter
 Ken Young – 1st VC Terry Raber Terry England
 Leonard Koonce – 2nd VC Richard Pepper Clay Kelley
 Dianne Craig – Sec.. June Miller Beverly Kelley
 Teeny Allison – Asst. Sec. Tim Walker Pat Graham
 Bob Lanham – Tr. Randy Reid Jaret Sweatt
 Mike Pentecost – Asst. Tr. John Reavis Linda Reavis
 John Stevens Lynn Stevens Power Evans
 Gary Taylor Janice Jones

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman Debbie Reid 706-684-0065
 email: debbier72956@comcast.net
 First Vice-Chair Ken Young 770-827-2887
 email: kenyoung276@hotmail.com
 Second Vice-Chair Leonard Koonce 706-351-7441
 email: lkoonce1967@gmail.com
 Secretary Dianne Craig 678-367-9593
 email: dcbooklover332@gmail.com
 Asst. Secretary Teeny Allison 770-231-7097
 email: teenyallison@gmail.com
 Treasurer Bob Lanham 770-867-5459
 email: lanhamrj@hotmail.com
 Asst. Treasurer Mike Pentecost 770-868-6046
 email: MCPWinder@aol.com
 C.C. Dist. 1 Rep. Richard Pepper 770-725-2777
 C.C. Dist. 2 Rep. Gary Taylor 678-449-5775
 C.C. Dist. 3 Rep. Open
 C.C. Dist. 4 Rep. Clay Kelley 770-560-4523
 C.C. Dist. 5 Rep. Tim Walker 770-231-2652
 C.C. Dist. 6 Rep. June Miller 770-867-5932

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Reg. \$ 15, Adv. \$ 25, Barrow 100 \$ 100, Barrow 360 \$ 360

LOCAL ELECTED REPUBLICAN OFFICIALS ARE EXPECTED TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP!

7:30 PM

April 19, 2021

GUEST SPEAKERS
STATE REP. TERRY ENGLAND
STATE REP. HOUSTON GAINES
MASKS OPTIONAL

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MEMBERSHIP COMPARISON (as of 3/31/2021)

Membership	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20	'21
Regular	39	36	26	30	26	26	26	21	9
Advanced	59	41	55	55	48	48	45	47	34
Barrow 100	8	13	7	9	7	6	6	11	9
Barrow 360	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Students	3	2	2	1	2	2	3	3	1
Total	110	92	91	96	84	83	81	83	54
Renewals	95	82	85	77	77	74	68	69	37
New	15	10	6	19	7	9	13	14	17

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www.barrowgop.org

CHECK OUR “HOME” PAGE FOR UPDATES

WE NOW NEED 2021 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

***** 2021 CONVENTIONS *****

PRECINCT MEETINGS - APRIL 17 - 9 AM
COUNTY CONVENTION - APRIL 17 - 10 AM
DISTRICT CONVENTION - MAY 15
STATE CONVENTION - JUNE 4 - 5

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REPUBLICAN: THE FREEDOM PARTY
LOWER TAXES *** LIMITED GOVERNMENT**
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Apr 17 (Sat)	Prec. Mtgs/Cty. Convention
Apr 19 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
May 15 (Sat)	District Convention
May 17 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
June 4-5 (Fri/Sat)	State Convention
June 21 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
July 19 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting

LOOKING AHEAD

Army Day – April 6 (Tuesday)
Tax Protest Day – April 15 (Thursday)
Ulysses Grant Birthday – April 27 (Tuesday)
National Day of Prayer – May 6 (Thursday)
Armed Forces Day – May 15 (Saturday)
Peace Officers Memorial Day – May 15 (Saturday)
Memorial Day (Observed) – May 31 (Monday)

2021 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Bobby Patterson	Janie Jones	Rolando Alvarez
Richard Schulz	Gary Taylor	Janice Jones
Chris Sullivan	John Stevens	Lynn Stevens
Teeny Allison	Mel Golder	Ronnie Morrow
Cathleen Gillespie	Johnny Stallings	Tammy Brown
Pat Graham	Houston Gaines	

WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS

Julie Bailey Parker Elrod



BARROW PRECINCT CHAIRPERSONS
NEW COMBINED PRECINCTS FOR 2020

Bethlehem Community Center Bethlehem Church @ GA 211 with most of County Line Elementary	June Miller
Hmong Alliance Church Bramlett Elementary & Midway UMC	John Stevens Dianne Craig
Covenant Life Sanctuary Church Westside Middle & Cedar Creek Baptist	David Gunter
Satham Fire Dept. with Satham Elementary	Richard Pepper
Winder First Baptist Church with Winder Lions Club	John Reavis
Winder Community Center with WBHS, Rec. Dept., & small part of County Line Elementary	Power Evans Bob Lanham
The Church At Winder with AHS	Kathy Hopkins

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NEXT POLITICAL BREAKFAST

Everyone is invited to participate in a monthly political breakfast at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Winder. The next group breakfast will be Saturday, **April 24, 2021**, at 9:00 AM. Please make plans to attend and bring a friend!

This is an informal group of conservatives who gather to eat, fellowship, and discuss the issues. This provides a chance for our members to meet, in addition to our monthly business meetings. It is a great way to recruit new members, and stay up on what’s going on.

GOLDEN CORRAL - WINDER
SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2021
9:00 AM

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is so hard not to be sad these days. If you think about all that is happening because of the present administration, it can be downright depressing.

We appear to have a chief executive that is diminishing right before our eyes, mentally and physically. The “press conference” was horrifying in its implications. The questions were not even “softballs,” but as my favorite radio talk show host, Andrew Wilkow, called them, “whiffle balls.” The questions appeared to be assigned in order beforehand and Mr. Biden had extensive notes to answer them. The questions were mostly nauseating, also – Yamiche Alcindor deserves whatever daily award liberals are giving themselves these days. She couched her question about the deluge of illegal aliens on the border as coming “because you are such a kind and decent man.” Glaringly obvious was the exclusion of Peter Doocy of Fox News and any questions he might have asked – perhaps because he destroys Jen Psaki quite often. The instance where Biden completely lost his thoughts would have been sad, if this man were no so bent on destroying our country. Because of the consequences of his actions, however, no sympathy here.

The plane steps incident was also appalling. I know that we have all slipped, fallen or tumbled at some point in our lives – I have had more than my share! The terribly transparent excuse given by the White House was troubling. My theory about the Democrat playbook fits with this narrative. I think rather than people inside the administration or even Democrat leadership easing Biden out and replacing him with Harris, they want American citizens to call for him to step down. Because his handlers are now willing to put him out there so publicly with his obvious incompetence and inefficiencies, what else could they want?

We should also understand that this is not just a tragedy for our country – the world is watching. Our allies must be alarmed. Think about the hostile nations gleefully rejoicing about who is in charge of the country that is the world’s leader. We are giving them every reason to push us harshly, hence the China/USA meeting debacle in Alaska. We are truly on the edge of a precipice.

The main question that we should all, no matter your political leaning, be asking at this point – who is running our country?

Debbie Reid

Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced that the Biden administration will be reengaging with the U.N. Human Rights Council, from which the Trump administration withdrew in 2018. Although the council has sometimes advanced the cause of human rights, its authoritarian members – Russia, China, Venezuela, Cuba, and others – too often get a free pass, and it disproportionately criticizes Israel. These flaws are longstanding. What is new is that China has stepped up its attempts to co-opt the body. The Biden administration believes that being in the room will allow it to push back against authoritarian influence. But the body should be fundamentally reformed before the U.S. lends legitimacy to it once again. “Diplomacy is back,” says the Biden team, but we fear what they really mean is “complacency.” (*National Review*)

FROM THE EDITOR

WE ARE ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2021. If you want to renew, please bring yours to our **April 19** meeting, mail it to our P.O. Box 1054, Winder, GA, 30680-1054, or go on-line to our web site for a credit/debit purchase. Please be encouraged to upgrade your membership to a higher level, if possible. We appreciate your support!

Please mark Saturday, **April 17, 2021** on your calendars. This is the date for our 2021 Precinct Meetings and County Convention at 9:00 AM and 10:00 AM respectively. We will be electing officers for the 2021-2023 term, and selecting delegates and alternates to the 2021 District and State Conventions. Recommendations will be made to the 2021 Nominations Committee based on volunteer service over the last 2 years and likelihood of attending the District and State Conventions. We will also be forming the new County Committee (voting members) for 2021-2023.

IN ORDER TO BECOME A VOTING MEMBER FOR 2021-2023, OUR RULES REQUIRE 3 THINGS: (1) Advanced Membership (or greater), (2) being a delegate to the County Convention [APRIL 17], and (3) notifying the new Chairman (2021-2023) that you want to be a voting member for 2021-2023 [note – some County Convention delegates do not wish to be voting members for various reasons]. Your presence on APRIL 17 is critical, if you want to be a voting member for the new 2-year cycle!

Our next regular monthly meeting will be Monday, **April 19, 2021** at 7:30 PM in the Winder Woman’s Club. Our guest speakers will be State Rep. Terry England and State Rep. Houston Gaines. Tables will not be set up; chairs will be spread out across the hall for distancing. Hand sanitizer will be available as you come in either door. There will be no refreshments. We are complying with Woman’s Club requests and the Governor’s proclamations related to COVID-19.

Make plans to attend. Bring a friend. Be early for a good seat. It will be worth your time.

Ken Young

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ADDITIONAL LINKS

“Small Business Will Rebuild The Economy” – *AMAC Advantage* – Palmer Schoening – December 2020 – <https://digitaledition.qwinc.com/publication/?m=404998&i=683717&p=12>

“Trump’s Historical Accomplishments” – *AMAC Advantage* – February 2021 – Robert B. Charles - <https://digitaledition.qwinc.com/publication/?m=404998&i=689459&p=32>

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WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE 2021 PRECINCT CAUCUSES AND COUNTY CONVENTION

Many of our newer members may not be aware of the significance of our upcoming Precinct Caucuses and County Convention set for Saturday, **April 17, 2021**, at the Winder Lions Club, 354 E. Broad St., Winder. The following is information to explain what will be happening on this important date.

Temporary Precinct Caucus Chairpersons will be appointed by the current Barrow GOP Chairman Debbie Reid. At 9:00 AM on **April 17**, these people will call the 8 individual precinct caucus meetings to order. All participants at these meetings must be duly registered in accordance with State Republican Party rules and Georgia State Election Code. The first order of precinct meeting business is to elect new Precinct Chairpersons for 2021-2023 (and other Precinct officers, if desired by the precinct participants). The new Precinct Chairperson will conduct the rest of the meeting. Each precinct meeting will then elect Delegates and Alternates to the 2021 Barrow County Republican Convention. All Delegates will receive name tags for Convention usage.

When all of the elections are completed, the paperwork (in triplicate) will be processed and routed to the appropriate local Party representatives. Other precinct business may take place at this meeting. It will be a good time to get acquainted with other Republicans in your precinct, and plans for future precinct work can be discussed.

At 10:00 AM on **April 17, 2021**, the current local Party Chairman Debbie Reid (serving as Temporary Convention Chairman) will call the 2021 County Convention to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation, Presentation of the state call, and Introduction of Elected Officials, the convention will elect the 2021 Permanent Convention Chairperson and Permanent Convention Secretary. Convention committees will then be dismissed to conduct their work (Credentials, Nominations, Rules). During this time, there may be announcements and speeches in the convention hall.

After the Convention committees return and report, the 2021-2023 Barrow County Republican officers will be elected. These include County Chairperson, First Vice-Chairperson, Second Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer. The Convention will then elect Delegates and Alternates to the 10th U.S. Congressional District Republican Convention to be held on Saturday, **May 15, 2021**, at a location to be announced. Delegates and Alternates will also be elected to the State Republican Convention to be held on Friday and Saturday, **June 4-5, 2021**, at a location to be announced. Those who qualify and desire will also form the new County Committee (voting members) for 2021-2023.

Your participation in the 2021 Precinct Caucuses will strengthen the Barrow County Republican Party. With your help, we have made a major impact. The next election cycle has begun

JUST PLAIN STUBBORN

Matt Towery, *James* magazine, January 2021

In a December interview defending his post-election inaction over alleged voting irregularities, Gov. Brian Kemp stated that “no one” worked harder for Donald Trump than he did. Hmm. I’m sure there are some longtime Trump friends, supporters and big dollar donors from Georgia who might beg to differ.

But let’s take Kemp at face value. Why? Primarily because he is the first Republican governor of the state who started his political career as an actual Republican. And because it makes no sense that a man who owes his governorship to a tweet by President Trump would purposely blow his political brains out on purpose. As for all the nefarious motives attributed by rumor and innuendo to Kemp’s refusal to get involved in straightening out Georgia’s disastrous November election, they are crazy and off base.

You see, anyone who knows Brian Kemp knows that he is not devious or nefarious. Anyone who knows the governor knows that he is stubborn. I mean really stubborn. And when Kemp believes he is right about something, he doubles down on his stubbornness.

So when the governor decided that he should not be involved in calling for a special session of the General Assembly to address issues related to the Nov. 3 election and Jan. 5 U.S. Senate runoffs, that was that. The more leaders, including Trump himself, who called on him to do otherwise, the more Kemp dug in. I could have told them to save their collective breaths.

Kemp’s logic was simple. Brad Raffensperger, whose future is either switching to the Democratic Party or serving one term as a Republican Secretary of State, was the sole constitutional officer in Georgia who could address alleged voting fraud. Whether he was correct or not will be in the hands on the voters in two years. After all, Raffensperger did order a signature audit – the day the electors made Joe Biden president and not in Fulton County, where the signature issue actually was one.

Now, before I write the rest of this column, let me insert this: FACT CHECK: “*The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* has determined that Georgia’s general election was free, fair and without irregularities.” Well, that closes that case, right?

MAJORITY OF REPUBLICANS THINK ELECTION UNFAIR

The fact is that, whether the *AJC*’s “fact checks” are correct or not, the vast majority of Republican voters in Georgia (in post-election polls) saw video from State Far, Arena, reports from sources as reputable as RealClearPolitics of large numbers of illegal votes cast and plenty of other examples of chicanery to believe that the election was not fair.

The *AJC*’s own “debunking” of alleged shoddy signature checking skipped over the fact that the software purchased by Fulton County to validate those signatures somehow was never used in the November election. So 143,000 absentee voter envelopes were verified by hand in Fulton County. Right! “Fact checks” from Democrat-leaning media be damned, most Georgia Republicans still felt electorally robbed.

So the question is: How do Kemp and those who stood with him survive this meeting of the immovable object and irresistible force?

The betting odds right now would be against Kemp. There is no doubt, at present, that Trump would actively campaign against him and that Trump supporters from around the country

would fill the coffers of a challenger in a GOP primary which Kemp could face in 2022. Current polling shows that any GOP opponent will start with around 40 percent of likely Republican voter support.

However, I didn’t grow up as a child in the Georgia governor’s office around the likes of Lester Maddox and Jimmy Carter not to learn a thing or two long before I reached my General Assembly years and the likes of Zell Miller and Roy Barnes.

Georgia’s governor is vested constitutionally with immense power. By this time next year there will be plenty of appointed positions to have been handed out and plenty of bills that required the governor’s signature. Power has a way of taming the higher end of the political food chain, which often is the only end that needs taming.

If Trump considers another run for president, he might even come to recognize that fighting with a powerful governor is not the best move in a state that is so precariously on the edge of becoming blue.

CAN KEMP REGAIN HIS POLITICAL FOOTING?

My guess is that despite being stubborn, Kemp will power forward and regain his footing . . . at least enough to have more than a sporting chance in a primary fight. He has name identification and power that a lieutenant governor or secretary of state simply doesn’t enjoy.

Yet, in a general election, Kemp will find a state now wedded to drop boxes and supervised by a secretary of state who flooded the place with absentee ballots and went to war with Trump. A “leader” who even delegated the training of election officials as to validity of absentee ballot envelope signatures to a Democratic chosen handwriting expert. The die has now been cast on Georgia’s version of open and fair elections. That genie is out of the bottle.

And that gets me to Stacey Abrams. If anyone doubted how smart and able Abrams is, those doubts surely have melted away. Ultimately if Kemp proves a one-term governor, and ultimately if Republican majorities in Georgia disappear (even after controlling reapportionment, as Democrats did prior to Governor Barnes’ defeat in 2002), it will be courtesy of Abrams and her vote turnout efforts.

That is because no matter how accommodating Republican leaders might have been to her in 2020, Abrams or her chosen surrogate will have no mercy on them in 2022. That means that Kemp will have to find every single supporter he can in order to pull off a re-election.

Brian Kemp must now stubbornly regain friends and search for a few new ones. I’m betting he can.

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Mitch McConnell briefly blocked a resolution to organize the new Senate, demanding that it commit to keeping the filibuster for the next two years. He relented once two Democratic senators, Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona and Joe Manchin of West Virginia, issued new statement of their support for the institution. Both McConnell and Chuck Schumer declared victory. But some progressives fumed that Sinema and Manchin’s position would doom their most important initiatives. McConnell, meanwhile, succeeded in slowing down the Democrats coming out of the gate. A small win, but a win. (*National Review*)